

I want to thank Chairman Ryan and Ranking Member Herrera Beutler for inviting me and Rep. Golden to testify today. It is of the utmost importance that the committee include language in the Fiscal Year 2021 Appropriations bill to block any consideration of Cost of Living Adjustment Members of Congress.

Last year, after a government shutdown that impacted people in every congressional district across our country, Members of Congress asked for a pay raise. Myself, Mr. Golden, and several others fought to make sure that nothing so ridiculous would be allowed to happen.

Now, with America's infrastructure crumbling, our borders unsecured, our immigration system broken, healthcare costs continue to rise, and Americans still living paycheck to paycheck, we must proactively reject a pay raise for ourselves, if for no other reason than to send a message. The reality is that blocking a congressional pay raise, especially one that is undeserved, sends our communities back home the message that we are serious about solving these issues. And in the end, its just the right thing to do.